

Translation

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

PCT

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY
(Chapter II of the Patent Cooperation Treaty)

(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)

Applicant's or agent's file reference 663932	FOR FURTHER ACTION	See Form PCT/IPEA/416
International application No. PCT/JP2003/009369	International filing date (day/month/year) 24 July 2003 (24.07.2003)	Priority date (day/month/year) 25 July 2002 (25.07.2002)
International Patent Classification (IPC) or national classification and IPC B41J 2/01, 2/385, B41M 5/00		
Applicant MATSUSHITA ELECTRIC INDUSTRIAL CO., LTD.		

1. This report is the international preliminary examination report, established by this International Preliminary Examining Authority under Article 35 and transmitted to the applicant according to Article 36.
2. This REPORT consists of a total of 4 sheets, including this cover sheet.
3. This report is also accompanied by ANNEXES, comprising:
 - a. ☒ (sent to the applicant and to the International Bureau) a total of 9 sheets, as follows:
 - ☒ sheets of the description, claims and/or drawings which have been amended and are the basis of this report and/or sheets containing rectifications authorized by this Authority (see Rule 70.16 and Section 607 of the Administrative Instructions).
 - ☐ sheets which supersede earlier sheets, but which this Authority considers contain an amendment that goes beyond the disclosure in the international application as filed, as indicated in item 4 of Box No. I and the Supplemental Box.
 - b. ☐ (sent to the International Bureau only) a total of (indicate type and number of electronic carrier(s)) _____, containing a sequence listing and/or tables related thereto, in computer readable form only, as indicated in the Supplemental Box Relating to Sequence Listing (see Section 802 of the Administrative Instructions).
4. This report contains indications relating to the following items:
 - ☒ Box No. I Basis of the report
 - ☐ Box No. II Priority
 - ☐ Box No. III Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability
 - ☐ Box No. IV Lack of unity of invention
 - ☒ Box No. V Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement
 - ☐ Box No. VI Certain documents cited
 - ☐ Box No. VII Certain defects in the international application
 - ☐ Box No. VIII Certain observations on the international application

Date of submission of the demand 23 February 2004 (23.02.2004)	Date of completion of this report 19 November 2004 (19.11.2004)
Name and mailing address of the IPEA/JP	Authorized officer
Facsimile No.	Telephone No.

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY

International application No.

PCT/JP2003/009369

Box No. I Basis of the report

1. With regard to the language, this report is based on the international application in the language in which it was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.

- ☐ This report is based on translations from the original language into the following language _____, which is language of a translation furnished for the purpose of:
- ☐ international search (under Rules 12.3 and 23.1(b))
- ☐ publication of the international application (under Rule 12.4)
- ☐ international preliminary examination (under Rules 55.2 and/or 55.3)

2. With regard to the elements of the international application, this report is based on *(replacement sheets which have been furnished to the receiving Office in response to an invitation under Article 14 are referred to in this report as "originally filed" and are not annexed to this report)*:

- ☐ The international application as originally filed/furnished
- ☒ the description:
- pages _____ 1-35 _____, as originally filed/furnished
- pages* _____ received by this Authority on _____
- pages* _____ received by this Authority on _____
- ☒ the claims:
- pages _____, as originally filed/furnished
- pages* _____, as amended (together with any statement) under Article 19
- pages* _____ 1-26 _____ received by this Authority on 15 November 2004 (15.11.2004)
- pages* _____ received by this Authority on _____
- ☒ the drawings:
- pages _____ 1-16 _____, as originally filed/furnished
- pages* _____ received by this Authority on _____
- pages* _____ received by this Authority on _____
- ☐ a sequence listing and/or any related table(s) – see Supplemental Box Relating to Sequence Listing.

3. ☐ The amendments have resulted in the cancellation of:

- ☐ the description, pages _____
- ☐ the claims, Nos. _____
- ☐ the drawings, sheets/figs _____
- ☐ the sequence listing (*specify*): _____
- ☐ any table(s) related to sequence listing (*specify*): _____

4. ☐ This report has been established as if (some of) the amendments annexed to this report and listed below had not been made, since they have been considered to go beyond the disclosure as filed, as indicated in the Supplemental Box (Rule 70.2(c)).

- ☐ the description, pages _____
- ☐ the claims, Nos. _____
- ☐ the drawings, sheets/figs _____
- ☐ the sequence listing (*specify*): _____
- ☐ any table(s) related to sequence listing (*specify*): _____

* If item 4 applies, some or all of those sheets may be marked "superseded."

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

International application No.

PCT/JP 03/09369

V. Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

1. Statement

Novelty (N)	Claims	1, 3, 4, 7-14, 16-26	YES
	Claims	2, 5, 6, 15	NO
Inventive step (IS)	Claims	1, 3, 13, 17	YES
	Claims	2, 4-12, 14-16, 18-26	NO
Industrial applicability (IA)	Claims	1-26	YES
	Claims	~	NO

2. Citations and explanations

Document 1: JP 2000-318141 A (Brother Industries, Ltd.),
21 November 2000, entire text; fig. 1 to 12

Document 2: WO 01/43978 A (Datacard Corporation), 21 June
2001, entire text; fig. 1 to 3

Document 3: JP 58-222877 A (Canon Inc.), 24 December 1983,
entire text; fig. 1 to 4 & US 4521785 A

Document 4: JP 2002-154275 A (Konica Corporation), 28 May
2002, entire text

Document 5: JP 8-337045 A (Konica Corporation), 24
December 1996, entire text

The invention set forth in claims 2, 5 and 6 is disclosed in document 1 cited in the international search report, and therefore lacks novelty and does not involve an inventive step. See paragraph 35 in particular.

The invention set forth in claim 15 is disclosed in document 2 cited in the international search report, and therefore lacks novelty and does not involve an inventive step. See claims 37 to 43 in particular.

The invention set forth in claims 4, 12 and 14 does not involve an inventive step in the light of documents 1 and 2. The inventions set forth in documents 1 and 2 both

concern image forming devices which carry out transfer, therefore it would be easy for a person skilled in the art to combine these inventions.

The invention set forth in claims 7 to 11 does not involve an inventive step in the light of document 1 and document 4 cited in the international search report. It would be easy for a person skilled in the art to conceive of applying the feature described in document 4 (paragraphs 78 to 81), of a barcode layer, to the device set forth in document 1.

The invention set forth in claims 18 to 25 does not involve an inventive step in the light of documents 1, 2 and 4, and document 3 cited in the international search report. The inventions set forth in each of these documents relate to image forming devices which carry out transfer, therefore it would be easy for a person skilled in the art to combine these inventions.

The invention set forth in claims 16 to 26 does not involve an inventive step in the light of documents 1 to 4 and document 5 cited in the international search report. It would be easy for a person skilled in the art to employ the resin-coated paper described in document 5 to the devices and methods described in documents 1 to 4.